



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

HJD

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,902	03/11/2004	Sam Gat-Shang Chu	AUS920031079US1	7019
7590 Kelly K. Kordzik P.O. Box 50784 Dallas, TX 75201		10/12/2007	EXAMINER LE, THONG QUOC	
			ART UNIT 2827	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/12/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/798,902	CHU ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Thong Q. Le	2827	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 4-6,8-16 and 18-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 8-10 and 18-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 4-6,11,13-16,21 and 23-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 12,22 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                    4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment filed on 08/31/2007 has been entered.
2. Claims 4-6,8-16,18-25 are presented for examination.

### *Response to Arguments*

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4-6,8-16,18-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 4-6,11,13-16,21,23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Raje (U.S. Patent No. 6,105,123).

Regarding claims 21, 4, Raje discloses a register file (Figure 5) comprising:  
a plurality of register file cells (Figure 5, 60, cell array) coupled to a bit line  
(Column 2, lines 40-Figure 5, GLOBAL BIT LINE);  
a latch (Figure 5, 104, Column 5, lines 62-63) coupled to the bit line (Column 2,  
lines 39-65, Figure 5, 104 coupled to global bit line through 106); and  
an inverter (Figure 5, 106) coupled between an output of the latch and the bit line  
(inverter tristate driver is between output of latch 104 and global bit line), and inverter is  
a tri-state inverter receiving and hold select signal to control operation of inverter

(Column 3, lines 46-50, Column 3, lines 64-67, Column 4, lines 1-15) as claim 4 discloses.

Regarding claims 5, 15, Raje discloses wherein an output of the inverter is coupled to the bit line and wherein an input of the inverter is coupled to the output of the latch (Figure 5, Column 2, lines 35-39).

Regarding claims 6, 16, Raje discloses wherein data is read out of the register array to be input into the latch (Column 2, lines 40-55).

Regarding claims 23, 13, Raje discloses wherein the output of the latch is an output of the register file (Column 5, lines 62-67, Column 6, lines 1-5).

Regarding claims 24-25, Raje discloses wherein a multiplexor (Figure 5, MUX 80 is not disposed between global bit line and latch104) is not coupled between the bit line and the latch.

Regarding claim 11, Raje discloses a register file (Figure 5) comprising:  
a plurality of register file cells (Figure 5, 60, cell array) coupled to a bit line (Column 2, lines 40-Figure 5, GLOBAL BIT LINE);  
a latch (Figure 5, 104, Column 5, lines 62-63) coupled to the bit line (Column 2, lines 39-65, Figure 5, 104 coupled to global bit line through 106); and  
a transmission gate circuit (Figure 5, 106) coupled between an output of the latch and the bit line (inverter tristate driver is between output of latch 104 and global bit line),

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 8-10, 18-20 are allowed.

Claims 8-10 include allowable subject matter since the prior art made of record and considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure does not teach or suggest the claimed limitations. Raje (U.S. Patent No. 6,105,123), and others, does not teach the claimed invention having a first tri-state inverter coupled between the first local bit line and the global bit line, the first tri-state inverter controlled by a first local select signal and a second tri-state inverter coupled between the second local bit line and the global bit line, the second tri-state inverter controlled by a second local select signal.

7. Claims 12, 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12, 22 includes allowable subject matter since the prior art made of record and considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure does not teach or suggest the claimed limitations. Raje (U.S. Patent No. 6,105,123), and others, does not teach the claimed invention having a an inverter coupled between the bit line and an input of the latch.

### ***Conclusion***

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

Art Unit: 2827

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thong Q. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-1783. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarabian Amir can be reached on 571-272-1852. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thong Q. Le  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2827

